

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASH DC PRIORITY 6469

C O N F I D E N T I A L OECD PARIS 09134

EXCON

E.O. 11652 XGDS1

TAGS: ESTC, COCOM

SUBJECT: COCOM LIST REVIEW - ROUND III PLANNING

REFS: A. COCOM DOC REV (74) 24

B. OECD PARIS 8821

1. IN REFDOC A MEMORANDUM TO THE COMMITTEE ON APRIL 10' THE NETHERLANDS DELEGATION HAS EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT THAT ONLY 12 ITEMS OUT OF THE 68 OPENED TO REVIEW HAVE BEEN CONCLUDED WITH THE RESULT THAT 56 ITEMS REMAIN FOR ROUND III DISCUSSION. IT SUGGESTS THAT TWO OR THREE WEEKS BE SCHEDULED IN JUNE FOR PRESENTATION OF POSITIONS BY DELEGATES WITHOUT THE ASSISTANCE OF TECHNICAL EXPERTS AND THAT ANY ITEMS REQUIRING TECHNICAL DISCUSSION BY EXPERTS BE SCHEDULED FOR THE FIRST HALF OF OCTOBER, 1975. THE NETHERLANDS MEMO CONCLUDES WITH A REQUEST FOR THE COMMENTS OF OTHER DELEGATIONS AT THE REGULAR COMMITTEE MEETING OF APRIL 15.

2. AS INDICATED IN REF B, THE DUTCH INTENT IS TO AVOID A FULL DRESS ROUND III WITH EXPERTS PARTICIPATING IN JUNE AND JULY. THE DUTCH ASSUME THAT THE LATTER WOULD BE WASTED EFFORT UNLESS THE US DELEGATION HAS RECEIVED MORE FULLY DEVELOPED AND JUSTIFIABLE POSTIONS THAN IT HAS REVEALED TO DATE. FOR EXAMPLE, THE COMMITTEE

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REFUSED TO ACCEPT THE US OBJECTIONS AND ARGUMENTS RE

1526 BECAUSE THEY QUESTIONED THEIR TECHNICAL INTEGRITY, THEIR APPARENTLY DATED INTELLIGENCE ASSUMPTIONS, AND THEIR INCONSISTENCY WITH NON-COCOM AVAILABILITY AND OTHER COCOM DEFINITIONS.

3. AT THE SAME TIME, THE NETHERLANDS ITSELF SHARES IN THE UNIVERSAL RECOGNITION BY ALL PC'S THAT COCOM'S CREDIBILITY WILL SUFFER AND DOMESTIC INDUSTRIES WILL FAIL TO SYMPATHIZE WITH THEIR INABILITY TO UPDATE AND WIN NOW THE LISTS WITHIN A ONE-YEAR PERIOD. THEY ARE UNDER POLITICAL PRESSURE TO PUBLISH THE NEW LISTINGS TO TAKE EFFECT ON JANUARY 1, 1976. FOR THAT REASON ON APRIL 10, DUTCH AND OTHER DELS PRESSED FOR THE RE-SCHEDULING OF ITEMS 1558, 1510, 1541, AND 1584 FOR APRIL 21 AND 22. US, WITH UNEXPECTED HELP FROM ITALY (WHICH WAS ADAMANT IN ITS DESIRE TO RESERVE THOSE TWO DAYS FOR PREPARATION FOR THE COMPUTER DISCUSSIONS) WAS ABLE TO FORESTALL THAT SCHEDULING. HOWEVER, US REPS AGREED TO REQUEST THAT INSTRUCTIONS BE FORWARDED WHEN READY, WITHOUT REGARD TO TIMING OF ROUND III AND TO INFORM THE COMMITTEE WHEN THEY ARE RECEIVED.

4. USDEL/WASH TEAM COMMENT: WE DOUBT THAT OTHER DELEGATIONS, AND PARTICULARLY THE BRITISH (WHO STATE THEY ARE UNDER SEVERE MINISTERIAL PRESSURE TO PRODUCE AN EARLY REVISED CONTROL LIST) WILL WISH TO ACCEPT THE DUTCH TWO-STAGE APPROACH, ALTHOUGH IT WOULD APPARENTLY MEET THE GERMAN POSITION AS EXPRESSED AT APRIL 8 MEETING. WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND AGAINST ESPOUSING IT UNLESS A MAJORITY DEVELOPS IN ITS FAVOR. IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES, IT WOULD PROBABLY BE BEST TO EXPRESS A PREFERENCE FOR DISCUSSION OF ALL REMAINING ITEMS IN JUNE/JULY, WHILE GOING WITH THE MAJORITY ON THE DUTCH PROPOSAL.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: (A) THAT USDEL BE SENT INSTRUCTIONS ON DUTCH PROPOSAL AS RECOMMENDED IN PARA 4, ABOVE; (B) THAT INSTRUCTIONS ON REMAINING ITEMS ON WHICH US IS IN RESERVE BE FORWARDED AS PROMPTLY AS POSSIBLE (WITHOUT REFERENCE TO ROUND III-ESPECIALLY WHEN COUNTERPROPOSALS ARE INVOLVED), AND (C) THAT EDAC POLICY OFFICERS

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CAREFULLY SCREEN PROPOSED ITEM INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE TRANSMISSION FOR THE APPLICABILITY OF THE STRATEGIC CRITERIA--WHICH SHOULD BE CITED--THE IMPACT OF NON-COCOM AVAILABILITY ON THE EFFICACY OF CONTROLS, TECHNICAL INTEGRITY, AND COCOM RECORD AND PRINCIPLES.

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